(d) whether it is also a fact that according to the administrative procedures, stipulated by the Monitoring Agency viz. the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), New Delhi 'the permit-licence-quota raj' is far from oven and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantitative ceilings for the export of these items are notified on an annual basis on the recommendations of the concerned Administrative Ministries. Registration-cum-Allocation Certificate for export of these items is issued by APEDA as prescribed in the current policy.

(c) No, Sir. No complaints have been received in this Office against Public Notice No. 21 dated 19-5-1993.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The Administrative procedures stipulated by the Monitoring Agency viz. the APEDA are in accordance with spirit of liberalisation of the Trade Policy. No licence is required for the export of these items. The administrative procedures stipulated by the Monitoring Agency are only to ensure free and equitable distribution and a proper utilization of the ceilings released.

Threat of Pak Missile Capabilities

*76. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO scientists have reently made an assessment of Pakistan's missile capabilities;

(b) if so, what is the extent of threat posed by Pakistan's missile capability; and

(c) what measures are contemplated by Government to meet any eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The Government are aware of the assessment of Pakistan's missile capability carried out by Mr. S. Chandrasekhar of ISRO. This was the technical analysis of an individual scientist which he had published in his individual capacity.

(b) and (c) Proliferation of ballistic missiles in India's neighbourhood is a matter of serious concern. Government keep a close watch on all such developments which have a bearing on our national security, and take appropriate measures from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness and to meet the emerging challenges.

French Fuel for Taps

*77. SHRl RAMDAS AGARWAL
:
SHRI BAPU KALDATE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether French Government has finally decided to stop the fuel supply for Tarapur Atomic Power Station:

(b) if so, what are" the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to meet the fuel requirement for Tarapur Atomic Power Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI); (a) and (b) France has already supplied the Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) committed by them for Thrapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) under a contract concluded in 1983 for a period of 10 years. As for future supply of LEU for TAPS by France, they had indicated to us, sometime back, that it would be on the condition of India accepting full scope International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Safeguards. The Government's present policy is not to accept full scope Safeguards.

(c) In the absence of LEU, TAPS could be operated on Mixed Uranium-Plutonium (MOX) fuel for which the technology has been developed indigenously. It is also possible to consider operating TAPS using indigenously produced LEU, for which the requisite technology is available.

Villages without Drinking Water Facilities

*78. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent survey according to which 30,000 villages in the country are without single source of drinking water;